

In re Patent Application of:
CHIU ET AL.
Serial No. 10/797,869
Filed: MARCH 9, 2004

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A fiber optic module comprising:

a nose receptacle engageable with a cage assembly;

a pull-actuator to disengage and withdraw the nose receptacle
~~fiber optic module~~ from the a cage assembly including:

a de-latch puller slideably coupled to the nose
receptacle for pulling in a direction away from the cage
assembly; and

a latching actuator engaged with the de-latch puller
for disengaging the nose receptacle from the cage
assembly; and

one or more electro-optic transducers to convert optical signals into electrical signals or electrical signals into optical signals.

2. (Original) The fiber optic module of claim 1 wherein the fiber optic module is a small form pluggable (SFP) fiber optic module and the cage assembly is a small form pluggable (SFP) cage assembly.

3. (Original) The fiber optic module of claim 1 wherein the pull-actuator is activated to disengage and withdraw the fiber optic module by a single backward pull action.

4. (currently amended) The fiber optic module of claim 1 wherein the de-latch puller ~~pull actuator~~ includes one or more grooves to slideably engage the fiber optic module.

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wherein the fiber optic module includes one or more grooves to slideably engage the de-latch puller ~~pull-actuator~~.

6. (currently amended) The fiber optic module of claim 4, ~~1~~ wherein the nose receptacle includes rails on which the de-latch puller ~~pull-actuator~~ slides to disengage the fiber optic module from the cage assembly.

7. (currently amended) The fiber optic module of claim 1 wherein the de-latch puller ~~pull-actuator~~ includes, one or more end-stops to withdraw the fiber optic module as the de-latch puller ~~pull-actuator~~ is pulled.

8. (currently amended) The fiber optic module of claim 1 wherein the de-latch puller ~~pull-actuator~~ includes one or more end-stops to prevent the de-latch puller ~~pull-actuator~~ from becoming disengaged from the fiber optic module as it is pulled.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Original) The fiber optic module of claim 1 wherein the pull-actuator includes an orientation indicator to indicate the fiber optic module which the pull-actuator releases.

11. (Original) The fiber optic module of claim 1 wherein the pull-actuator is formed of metal.

12. (Original) The fiber optic module of claim 1 wherein the pull-actuator is formed of a plastic.

In re Patent Application of:
CHIU ET AL.
Serial No. 10/797,869
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13-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Original) The fiber optic module of claim 1 wherein the pull-actuator permits arranging multiple fiber optic modules in a belly-to-belly configuration without obstructing adjacent pull-actuators.

25. (Original) The fiber optic module of claim 24 wherein with the belly-to-belly configuration, two pull-actuators are located in proximity to each other along a common surface between two fiber optic modules.

26-49. (Cancelled)

50. (Canceled)

51. (Canceled)

52. (Canceled)

53. (Canceled)

54-55. (Cancelled)

56. (Canceled)

57. (Canceled)

58. (Canceled)

In re Patent Application of:
CHIU ET AL.
Serial No. 10/797,869
Filed: MARCH 9, 2004

59-70. (Cancelled)

71. (Canceled)

72. (Canceled)

73. (Canceled)

74. (Canceled)

75. (currently amended) The fiber optic module configuration of claim 1 ~~73~~ wherein the de-latch puller ~~pull-tab~~ is a pull button.

76. (currently amended) The fiber optic module configuration of claim 1 ~~73~~ wherein the de-latch puller ~~pull-tab~~ is a pull knob.

77. (currently amended) The fiber optic module configuration of claim 1 ~~73~~ wherein the de-latch puller ~~pull-tab~~ is a pull hook.

78. (currently amended) The fiber optic module configuration of claim 1 ~~73~~ wherein the de-latch puller ~~pull-tab~~ is a pull ring.

79. (currently amended) The fiber optic module configuration of claim 1 ~~73~~ wherein the de-latch puller ~~pull-tab~~ is a pull square.

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80. (currently amended) The fiber optic module configuration of claim 1 ~~23~~ wherein the de-latch puller ~~pull tab~~ is a pull mechanism.

81. (new) The fiber optic module according to claim 1, wherein the de-latch puller includes a catch; and wherein the latching actuator includes a ramped sliding surface at a first end for coupling with the catch, whereby pulling of the de-latch puller causes the latching actuator to rotate.

82. (new) The fiber optic module according to claim 81, wherein the latching actuator includes a latch on a second end thereof for engaging an opening in the cage assembly.

83. (new) The fiber optic module according to claim 82, wherein the catch includes a latching surface with a rounded edge, whereby when the de-latch puller is pulled, the rounded edge of the latching surface moves against the ramped sliding surface causing the latching actuator to rotate and the latch to disengage from the opening in the cage assembly.

84. (new) The fiber optic module according to claim 81, further comprising spring means for maintaining the latching actuator engaged with the cage assembly.